

4th & Stewart church of Christ

"...upon this rock I will build my church;
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."
~ Matthew 16:18



June 29, 2014

Contact Us:

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Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study9:45 AM
Worship10:40 AM
Care, Inc. Service 2:30 PM
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class..On Break
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Billy Chism

Deacons:

Mike Bannister..... Don Smith

James Thomas

Preacher:

Johnny McCaghren

Works We Support:

Cherokee Home for Children
Gospel Broadcast Network
Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)
House to House, Heart to Heart
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, Africa
The Truth in Love
World Bible School

Let us know if you want to study
the Bible to know more about
Christ and His Church.

The End (Part 1)

The last week of the Lord's life was spent in Jerusalem. Luke 21:37 says that "...in the day time he was teaching in the temple; and at night he went out, and abode in the mount that is called [the mount] of Olives." On one such evening as Jesus "...went out of the temple, one of his disciples saith unto him, Master, see what manner of stones and what buildings [are here]! And Jesus answering said unto him, Seest thou these great buildings? there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down" (Mark 13:1-2; cf. Matt. 24:2; Luke 21:6).

In but few words, Jesus prophesies the complete and utter destruction of the temple. Nothing could perhaps seem more improbable to the Jews than this prophecy. How could it ever be that their beloved city and temple could be ransacked and completely demolished? Yet, in less than 40 years, the temple came down just as the Lord said. History records that the Roman Emperor Vespasian gave orders to besiege the city of Jerusalem and with his son Titus leading the army, destroyed it and the temple in 70 A.D.

Continuing out of Jerusalem, Jesus leads his disciples to a hill overlooking the city where he would spend the night. As Jesus "...sat upon the mount of Olives over against the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what [shall be] the sign when all these things shall be fulfilled" (Mark 13:3-4). Luke 21:7 records the same questions saying, "...Master, but when shall these things be? and what sign [will there be] when these things shall come to pass?" Matthew 24:3 adds a third question that Mark and Luke do not record. Here we read, "...Tell us, when shall these things be? and what [shall be] the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?"

There is so much misunderstanding and false doctrine regarding the Lord's teaching in Matthew 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21. The disciples had asked three questions: 1) "when" shall these things be? 2) what "sign" will there be when these things will be fulfilled? 3) what "sign" will there be concerning the end of the world? Though the third question is often combined with the second, the Lord answers it separately in Matthew 24. A clear and distinct separation is seen between the answer to question #2 in verses 4-35 of Matthew 24, and question #3 beginning in verse 36 and extending through the end of chapter 25. We will treat the disciples inquiry and the Lord's answer as three separate questions.

THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM

Jesus uses this opportunity to tell his disciples to not be gullible and fall for just any and every teaching that comes along. Jesus admonishes them to take heed that no man lead them astray (Matt. 24:4). They, just like us, must use logic, reason, and investigation. First Thessalonians 5:21 says, "prove all things, hold fast that which is good." There would be many false christs who would lead many astray (v.5). In the next few years (less than 40) from the time Jesus spake these words, they would hear of wars and rumors of wars but were not to fear or be troubled about what they hear (v.6).

How fearful are so many, even today, by events going on in the world around us. As terrible and tragic as they are, the faithful in Christ Jesus take comfort in knowing that man cannot harm our soul (cf. Matt. 10:28). We work and pray, pray and work, that the Lord's will be done, as it is in heaven, so also upon the earth. Paul writes to Timothy saying, "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, [and] giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and [for] all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty" (1 Tim. 2:1-2).

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"But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your 'yes' be yes and you 'no' be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation"

James 5:12



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Jesus says that in their life time, in that generation (Matt. 24:33-34), "...there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places" (Matt. 24:7). Some would be afflicted and killed. Some would betray one another and hate one another (vs.9-10). Many would be deceived by false prophets (v.11). Wickedness, lawlessness, would multiply and increase. "*The love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved*" (vs.12-13).

In Revelation 2:10, John writes, "*be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.*" The point being, they, as well as us, must live faithful to the Lord even in the face of death. Neither persecution nor war nor natural disaster has any hold over the faithful. We may be caught up in the circumstances around us, but we are comforted in knowing we serve the true and living God. We must not "cave in" to the pressures and temptations of life. James says that trials and temptations come from both without (James 1:2-12) and within (1:13-16), but either way, we can overcome because we rest in the hands of a loving Savior (cf. 1 Peter 1:3-9; Psa. 31:19; 37:28; 55:22).

THEN COMETH THE END

In verse 14 of Matthew 24 Jesus said, "*And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.*" While Mark (13:10) mentions the Gospel being preached in all the world, neither he nor Luke record the last four words of Matthew 24:14 where the Lord said, "*then shall the end come.*"

It is assumed by so many today that the "end" refers to the end of time — the end of the world. But, an examination of the context in which this phrase is found won't allow it. The Greek word is *telos* and is defined by Thayer as "termination, the limit at which a thing ceases to be. Always of the end of some act or state." Vines defines it as "the limit, either at which a person or thing ceases to be what he or it was up to that point, or at which previous activities were ceased." It is used concerning the end of the law of Moses in Romans 10:4, "*For Christ [is] the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.*" Brother James Boyd comments, "*Christ is the end of the law. The word "end" means goal, target, that which was in view. The coming of Christ was that toward which the old law pointed. "End" here is like the term "end" in First Peter 1:9, where Peter wrote, "Receiving the end of you faith, even the salvation of your souls." The goal, target, that which is in view of faith, is salvation. In like manner, Christ was the "end" of the old law of Moses. It is the same thought here as in Galatians 3:23-25 which teaches the purpose*

of the law was to bring to Christ. (System of Salvation, Comments on Romans, Nov. 1990, p.150)

What "end" is under consideration in Matthew 24:14? It's not the end of time because the earth is still standing. It's the end of the Mosaic Age—the end of Judaism.

The system of Judaism, governed by the law of Moses, had come to its end. It had run its course and would be replaced with the Christian system (the Christian age). Even when the law of Moses had been delivered, it was revealed, "*The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken*" (Deut. 18:15). This passage is quoted by Peter as being fulfilled in Jesus Christ (Acts 3:19-26). "*For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. And it shall come to pass, [that] every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people. Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days*" (Acts 3:22-24).

Nine hundred years after the giving of the law of Moses and six hundred years before the time of Christ, Jeremiah foretold of the passing of the law of Moses (Jer. 31:31-34). It is quoted in Hebrews 8:6-13 as being fulfilled in Jesus Christ. The Lord came to put away the law of Moses and establish his new law. Hebrews 10:9 says Jesus came to take away the first (Old Testament) that he might establish the second (New Testament). "*Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross*" (Col. 2:14). The "*law was our schoolmaster [to bring us] unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster*" (Gal. 3:24-25). The law of Moses accomplished that for which it was intended. "*It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; [and it was] ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator*" (Gal. 3:19). The "seed" that was to come was Jesus the Christ (v.16).

Both John the Baptist and Jesus taught things concerning the kingdom (church). "*The law and the prophets [were] until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached...*" (Luke 16:16). On the day of Pentecost, the Gospel was preached for the first time (Acts 2). The new law, the law of Christ, was made effective. The old law, the law of Moses, was done away. The events of Acts 2 were the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies of

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Television

The Truth In Love (Robert Dodson)

Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB

In Search of the Lord's Way

Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB

Gospel Broadcasting Network

Sunday @ 6:30 am on Dish:267, DirectTV:376

Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)

Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

Internet

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org

Gospel Broadcasting Network

Gbntv.org and on Roku

God's Plan for Redeeming Man

Hear Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).

Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)

Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)

Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)

Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being **baptized** for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)

Live faithfully (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)

Bible Study Schedule

Sunday 6/29: Numbers 7
Monday 6/30: Numbers 8-10
Tuesday 7/1: Numbers 11-13
Wednesday 7/2: Numbers 14-15
Psalm 90
Thursday 7/3: Numbers 16-17
Friday 7/4: Numbers 18-20
Saturday 7/5: Numbers 21-22

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

(2 Timothy 2:15)



Visitation Meeting

- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **28 contacts** were made.

Special Announcements

- ◆ If you need you picture taken to update the directory and picture board, **please get with Tom Wilcox today**, if possible.
- ◆ A new addition of **The Spiritual Sword** is available on the back table. Theme: *A Handy Guide to Understand the Bible*. Please take one and use it. They are a valuable tool.
- ◆ **Next week will be our monthly fellowship meal**. Please plan to stay and share this time together.

In The Area

- ◆ **June 29-July 3—Junior Camp—This Week!**
- ◆ July 8 **SYS @ Hillcrest**—“Fear the Lord from Your Youth”
- ◆ July 15 **SYS @ Hico**—“Keep God’s Commands from Your Youth”
- ◆ July 20-25—**Senior Camp**
- ◆ July 29 **SYS @ Gordon**—“Trusting God from Your Youth”
- ◆ Aug. 5 **SYS @ 5th & Grape**—“Proving Yourself from Your Youth”
- ◆ **Aug. 12 SYS @ 4th & Stewart**—“Prepare Yourself from Your Youth”

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the Messiah and his new law. Everything prior to this chapter was looking forward to the events of this day. Everything after this chapter looks backward to this day. No wonder Acts 2 is called the “hub of the Bible.” So few understand this simple truth of God’s word.

The Jews of the first century did not understand, or at least would not accept, that Judaism had come to its end. It had fulfilled its purpose. It had ushered in the coming of the Messiah’s kingdom. The Mosaic system which had existed for 1,500 years has been replaced by a new and everlasting covenant (cf. Jer. 32:40; Heb. 13:20-21). The first covenant, the law of Moses, had become old, decayed, and consequently vanished away (Heb. 8:13). It was changed and disannulled (put away, rejected) because of its weakness and unprofitableness (Heb. 7:12,18). It was merely a shadow of the New Testament (Heb. 10:1). The Lord took it (the First Covenant) away that he may establish the second (the New Covenant/Testament, Heb. 10:9-10). It was blotted out and taken out of the way, being nailed to the cross (Col. 2:14). It was a “school master” (escort, much like a school bus driver) to bring us to Christ and his new law (Gal. 3:24-25).

When the Messiah’s new law arrived (New Testament), the old law (Old Testament) was no longer needed. According to Romans 15:4, it’s in the Bible so we can learn great principles and examples of man’s interaction with God. It is not that by which the world is spiritually governed today. It does not teach us how to worship God and live righteously before him. The New Testament teaches us that. The law of Moses “...was added because of transgressions, **till the seed should come to whom the promise was made...**” (Gal. 3:19). The “seed” is Christ (Gal. 3:16). When Jesus Christ came, the law of Moses was done away.

The Jews as well as many others today refuse to see that the old law has been replaced with a new law. The New Testament is replete (overflowing) with point after point, argument after argument, showing the old was filled full and was replaced with the new. No clearer is this fact shown than in Galatians 5:4, “...whosoever of you are justified by the law (of Moses); ye are fallen from grace.” The entire book of Hebrews is given to show the superiority of the priesthood of Christ over the Levitical priesthood — Christianity over Judaism. It is a book to the whole world in general and Christians in particular that Christ and his church is the only right way.

Don’t abandon the Lord Jesus. Don’t give up on Him and his New Law. We’re on the right track. Hang on. Steady the course. Don’t forfeit salvation by going back into the world of hedonism, denominationalism, Judaism.

Part 2 next week.

Garland Robinson, *Seek The Old Paths*, May, 2014

Celebrate

“Rejoice with those who rejoice...” (Romans 12:15)

July Birthdays: Ashley Kahlich (6/29), Jason Warman (6), Mariah Martinez (8), Chase Churchwell (11), Cindy Fuller (12), Steven Martinez (13), John Barnum & Jack Hill (26).

July Anniversaries: None.

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	June 15, 2014	June 22, 2014
Bible Class	47	57
AM Worship	65	69
PM Worship	48	48
Wednesday PM	49	46
Contribution	\$1,996	\$2,021

Privileged To Serve

"...be ready to every good work" (Titus 3:1)

	This Week: 6/29/14	Next Week: 7/6/14		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	June 2014 Make Announcements: James Fuller Prepare Communion: Billy & Peggy Chism Clean Building: Jack & Judie Turner Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox July 2014 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: Peggy Moore Clean Building: John Barnum Family Keep Grounds: James Fuller	
Greeters	James & Cindy Fuller	Dennis Family		
Opening Prayer	Don Smith	James Thomas		
Communion	John Barnum*, Garrett Barnum Joe Dennis, Caleb Dennis	Allen Griffith*, John McCaghren Hank Wheeler, James Fuller		
Closing Prayer	Hank Wheeler	Billy Chism		
Attendance Cards	Caleb Dennis	Chase Churchwell		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Ken Maninger	Song Leader: Joe Dennis		
Opening Prayer	Mike Bannister	Tom Wilcox		
Scripture Reading	Kevin Wilcox	Garrett Barnum		
Communion	John Barnum	Allen Griffith		
Closing Prayer	Gene Bannister	Don Smith		
Wednesday Devotionals:	July 2 Garrett Barnum	July 9 Don Smith	July 16 Joe Dennis	July 23 Allen Griffith

Search the Scriptures

Be like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11)

<i>Studies for the week of June 29, 2014</i>	<i>Sunday Class A Brief Look At Church History</i> <i>Wednesday Class Mark 12</i>
<p>Studies in Luke—The Pharisee & The Tax Collector—18:9-14 This parable is addressed to "some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt" (9).</p> <p>◆ Two primary characters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Pharisee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Jesus has already had many disagreements with the Pharisees. ◦ There is little said in the NT about the Pharisees that is good. • A Tax Collector [Publican] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ A collector or renter of Roman taxes. ◦ Despised by the general public and classified with sinners. ◦ Ironically, they were received by Jesus. <p>◆ These two men went to the temple to pray (10).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharisee—"God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get" (11,12) • Tax Collector—"God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" (13) • Jesus—"I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other" (14) <p>◆ Interpretation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharisee—represents those "who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt" • Tax Collector—represents the correct response to God—that we not think more highly of ourselves than we ought to think (Rom. 12:3) <p>◆ Application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare the Pharisee's list with Paul's list in Phil. 3:1-16 • Now notice their attitudes toward those lists. • What is your attitude toward your list of accomplishments? 	<p>Epistle of James—Christian Attitude Toward Mistreatment—5:7-12</p> <p>◆ Be Patient, The Lord Is Coming (7,8)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As Christians deal with those oppress and persecute us, James calls for patience, longsuffering. • We patiently wait for the coming of the Lord, the Avenger. • Example—the farmer, who must patiently wait for his crop. • Establish your hearts—prepare yourself to endure difficult times • We live in anticipation of the Lord's coming—with the assurance that He will come. <p>◆ Be Strong Because of The Promise (9)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Judge is standing at the door. • Make sure that in the excitement of the Lord coming to avenge your oppressors, that you are prepared for Him to come. <p>◆ Patience Has Always Been Triumphant (10,11)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Another example of patience—the prophets. • These servants of God were often treated horribly by the very people they came to save (Heb. 11:32-38). • Consider Job—he was tortured by questions of why God allowed the calamity to come upon him, but he kept his faith. • James encourages us to these who remained steadfast and to do the same, remembering our Lord is compassionate and merciful. <p>◆ Swearing Forbidden (12)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This may seem unrelated, but James states this is the most important thing to consider when being oppressed and mistreated. • He is not dealing with profanity, but the swearing of oaths. • The Christian's word should be his bond, thus there is no reason for more than a simple "yes" or "no." • The best guarantee of any statement is the good character of the man who made it!